NOVI SAD 2022

95th INTERNATIONAL SESSION

EUROPEAN **YOUTH** PARLIAMENT

RESOLUTION BOOKLET

EUROPEAN **YOUTH** PARLIAMENT
СРБИЈА SERBIA

SERBIA, 2022

NOVI SAD 2022

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY PROCEDURE

GENERAL RULES

▶ Each committee will be afforded one Direct Response per debate.

▶ All delegates are encouraged to vote and refrain from abstaining unless they have a true moral conflict.

▶ Resolutions are successful if they receive a majority of votes in favour.

▶ Delegates should afford equal respect to all debates as if they were their own.

▶ A Chairperson or committee delegate will raise the committee placard and Direct Response card.

▶ The authority of the board is absolute.

TIMES AND PROCEDURES

▶ Reading out of the topic (board)

▶ Silent time to view and read the resolution (1 minute)

▶ Proposition speech (3 minutes)

▶ Position speeches (2x2 minutes)

▶ Answer to position speeches (1.5 minutes)

▶ Open debate - 4 rounds & 4 responses to round (1+1 minutes))

▶ Amendment discussion time (5 minutes)

▶ Amendment & Summation speech (3 minutes)

▶ Voting

RESOLUTION BOOKLET

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ROLES

NON-PROPOSING COMMITTEES

POSITION SPEECHES

The Position Speech is a speech held by any other committee but the proposing one. The speech can either agree with the proposed resolution or the speech can thoroughly disagree with the proposed resolution. In either way the rationale behind the position should be elaborated on.

The Position Speech should not pick at individual clauses or details but rather is used when a delegate fundamentally agrees or disagrees with the content of the resolution. Like a Proposition Speech, the Position Speech is held from the podium.

OPEN DEBATE

Any committee with a question, comment, or suggested amendment on the resolution can raise their committee placard and, when recognised by the Board, pose it to the proposing committee. The Board will take 4-5 points from the floor before allowing the proposing committee to respond to all of them. During each debate, committees must raise the placard with their committee name to show that they want to speak and wait for the Board to recognise them.

PROPOSING COMMITTEES

PROPOSITION SPEECH(ES)

During this time one member of the proposing committee will go to the podium and deliver a speech on the resolution. The proposing committee presents the rationale and context of the resolution and their solutions rather than defending it to the GA.

RESPONSE TO POSITION SPEECH(ES)

A delegate from the proposing committee has the chance to respond to the Position Speech(es). The response will be delivered from the floor. It should last for about 90 seconds and address the main questions and concerns raised in the position speeches.

RESPONSES TO OPEN DEBATE

A delegate from the proposing committee has the chance to answer the questions, comments, and suggestions brought up in the most recent round of open debate. The responses will be delivered from the floor, including the last round, and the committee will be given one minute to prepare their responses after each round.

AMENDMENT SPEECH & SUMMATION SPEECH

a. During a short amendment speech, a delegate from the proposing committee will explain to the Assembly why they chose to change or add an amendment or why they chose not to accept any amendments.

b. During the Summation Speech, a delegate from the proposing committee has the final chance to use all rhetorical energy and skill to convince people to vote for their resolution.

Please note both speeches are given from the podium and that the microphone may only be passed once.

AMENDMENT OFFICER(S)

The proposing committee will have the opportunity to develop amendments based on constructive suggestions made in the rounds of Open Debate by the other committees. Amendment Officers are responsible to keep note of the suggestions made in GA and then phrase into possible amendments prior to the end of Open Debate for the committee to then decide upon.

OPEN DEBATE

▸ **There will be four rounds of debate, circa 4 points per round.**

▸ **The board will recognise a varying number of committees depending on time before returning to the proposing committee for a response, depending on the time taken to make points.**

▸ **The Chairperson will raise their placard to indicate that they have a point.**

▸ **The Chairperson is responsible for ensuring the order of speakers within the committee.**

▸ **Committees may use their Direct Responses to jump the queue only in this portion of the debate.**

▸ **Points should refer to either aims, political statements, or Operative Clauses of the resolution, focusing on one singular cohesive idea.**

▸ **Delegates are encouraged to propose alternative solutions and enrich the debate rather than simply asking for clarification.**

DIRECT RESPONSES

This placard can only be used to directly answer a point of the Open Debate. The Direct Response should refer to the core of the last point made and not just be on the same topic. The Direct Response can only be raised once per debate. If a Direct Response is misused, it still counts as used.

VOTING PROCEDURE

▶ **The votes will be collected by the Chairpersons, and will be announced to the GA.**

▶ **The Chairperson will raise their placard to indicate that all votes have been collected.**

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AMENDMENTS PROCEDURE

PURPOSE AND GOALS

The goal of an amendment procedure is to raise the quality of the debate by giving delegates from all committees the opportunity to **have an impact on the resolution** by making constructive points. Delegates should be engaged and motivated to express their opinion and **let valid criticism go hand in hand with suggesting improvements**. The Proposing Committee however **should stay in charge of their own resolution** and should not have to defend something they don't stand behind. It will then be up to the GA to convince the Proposing Committee in the debate that an amended version of their resolution would better affect the change they seek. Such a procedure would combine **engagement**, a more **constructive debate** and the **possibility to shape the resolution** for delegates of other committees.

FORMAT AND PROCEDURE

1. During the Open Debate, constructive comments and feedback should be given. The other committees can make **Amendment suggestions** to the Proposing Committee as a regular point in the debate;
2. The Proposing Committee is required to do the following throughout the rounds of Open Debate:
   a. When a round of Open Debate finishes, they respond (nothing new here!)
   b. During all the rounds of debate the Amendment Officer(s) picks up on and phrases the possible amendment(s);
3. Then, after the final response to open debate the Proposing Committee gets **5 minutes** to discuss if they wish to use any of the potential amendments mentioned in the GA. This time can be used by the other committees to reflect on the wider conversations on the resolution;
4. **After the 5 minutes are done**, the Chairperson raises their placard, and informs the Board about the decision;
5. The Proposing Committee proceeds to the amendment and summation speeches from the podium. The amendment speech in this case reflects why the committee chose why **they did** or **did not** have an **amendment**;
6. **If there will be an amendment**, it needs to be phrased before the end of the responses to the last round of debate;
7. It is up to the **Chairperson's discretion** to accept the Amendment or not:
   a. If the Chairperson accepts the Amendment, it is then **passed on to the Board**,
   b. It is then up to the **Board's discretion** to either accept or reject the Amendment;
8. If the Amendment is accepted by the Board, then it is instantly re-phrased (if necessary) and **added to the Resolution**;
9. Following this, we move on to the amendment and summation speeches;
10. A maximum of **two Amendments** can be made by the Proposing Committee;
11. Finally, the GA votes on the resolution as a whole.

RESOLUTION BOOKLET

AMENDMENTS PROCEDURE

RULES AND GUIDELINES FOR AMENDMENTS

▶ The purpose of amending a resolution is to improve its quality based on the debate.

▶ The general spirit of the resolution must not be changed! (No unfriendly amendments).

▶ Amendments need to be a result of the debate on the resolution. Only if the general idea of the amendment was mentioned in the debate, the amendment is valid.

▶ An amendment can only have impact one clause.

▶ Amendments can change, add or replace a clause.

▶ The vast majority of the Proposing Committees work in phrasing and deciding on amendments should be happening during the debate not at the end!

▶ This can be achieved by the delegates who are assigned the role of amendment officers, working silently through GA via online documents, noting the suggestions made during open debate, deciding whether or not they are in the spirit of the resolution, and phrasing possible amendments.

▶ The committee's chair can also be of help to the amendment officers in this process and use their expertise to streamline their work during the debate.

▶ There will be assigned roles for Amendment Officers in the committee.

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND
FOOD SAFETY I (ENVI I)

Make Sports Fun Again: As sports competitions become ever more popular while promoting daunting physical practices and creating high physical and mental barriers for achieving success, how can the EU support healthy and sustainable sports at grassroots levels?

Submitted by:

Vilma Georgine Børresen Årbu (NO), Laura Birbe (ES), Kimi Cruz (IE), Nina Grujičić (HR), Eric Jamharyan (BE), Therése Hartman Liungman (SE), Georgios Papaconstantinou (CY), Aleksandra Pawlik (PL), Sofija Stanojević (RS), Maria-Lorna Szamozi-Kalligkatsi (GR), Milica Mijatović (Chairperson, RS)

The European Youth Parliament,

aims to improve the attitude of all individuals towards sports at a grassroots level in order to make it a sustainable and accessible part of young people's lifestyles. Furthermore, it aims to make sports an enjoyable experience which would assist in overcoming mental and physical barriers in sport,

- Pointing out the issue of an inadequate balance between sports, academic, and personal life of players at the grassroots level,

- Saddened that at grassroots levels too much emphasis is being put on accommodating one's lifestyle to the sport, leading to physical strain, poor mental health, and the spread of diet culture among players,

- Acknowledging that over-competition at grassroots levels negatively impacts players prompting them to struggle with rejection, thus increasing anxiety levels[1],

- Regrets the fact that the health benefits of a balanced and active lifestyle[2] are not consistently promoted and celebrated within the grassroots sports community across Europe,

- Alarmed by the increasing amount of usage of performance-enhancing drugs (PEDs)[3] in elite sports and normalising this practice at the consequent impact influence it has on grassroots level sports,

- Concerned by extreme and harmful diet culture stemming from weight categories in certain sports from the "*make it or break it philosophy*" as well as the pressure to change one's body to still be able to participate in sports,

- Bearing in mind that some groups of players[4] are finding it difficult to continue playing at grassroot levels since they are not presented with the ability to practice with players on their experience level,

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[1] *Sara Breistøl, Jocelyne Clench-Aas, Betty Van Roy, Ruth Kjærsti Raanaas*, Scandinavian Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Psychology, (2017), "*Association Between Participating in Noncompetitive or Competitive Sports and Mental Health among Adolescents – a Norwegian Population-based Cross-sectional Study*"

[2] *Gregory N. Ruegsegger, Frank W. Booth*, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, (2017, 15 May), "*Health Benefits of Exercise*"

[3] Performance-enhancing drugs (PED) are supplements which represent a class of substances that can alter a person's physical or cognitive performance.

[4] *Will Hinch*, Pitchero, (2020, 15 May), "*Should youth teams be split by size not age?*"

- Aware of the high drop-out rates among young females in grassroots sports, who represents a substantial part of the total dropout rate among young athletes[5],

- Concerned by the fact that players from a lower socio-economic level face difficulties in joining sports as at grassroots levels while being prone to discontinue their involvement and miss out on the social benefits of sport[6];

1. Invites national sports federations of Member States to publish their annual competitive programmes for each age group in order to make it easier for clubs to plan and implement a healthy and sustainable routine for their athletes;

2. Encourages all grassroots sports associations to connect parents and guardians of participants to the international project Sport Parent Europe[7];

3. Requests the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA)[8] to launch an online programme that promotes mental and physical benefits of grassroots sports;

4. Encourages Member States to establish a special scheme, such as in the Netherlands[9], through which low-income families would be able to afford to have their children play at grassroots levels by offering help with paying for participation fees and equipment;

5. Asks the Ministries of Sport of Member States to draft guidelines on the prevention of unhealthy eating habits in young players in order to minimise the harmful effects that unbalanced diets have on young players' mental and physical health;

6. Calls upon the EACEA to, in conjunction with Member States, create and launch a social media campaign named *Redefine Success*; which is:

   a. focused on keeping women's participation at the grassroots level as high as possible,

   b. tailored to develop life-time skills to counter the "*win at all costs philosophy*" in sport;

7. Requests Member States to encourage grassroots sport organisations to implement the methods described in the European Sport Coaching Framework[10] in order to help them attend to the participants' athletic and social needs;

8. Praises the efforts of the "Together against doping"[11] programme implemented in Germany aimed at promoting a clean and doping-free environment in grassroots level sport;

[5]*Dr Stacey Emmonds, Dr Dan Weaving, Dr Sergio Lara-Bercial, Prof. Kevin Till*, Erasmus+ Sport Project ICOACHKIDS+, (2021), *"Youth Sport Participation Trends in Europe"*

[6] *Hasan İhsan Şengör*, International Society for the Social Studies/ University of Central Florida, "*Impacts of Socio-Economic Background on Participation in Various Sport Types"*

[7] Sport Parent Europe is a project which makes sure that children and parents can have a more enjoyable and safer experience in sport.

[8] European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) manage projects and facilitate knowledge exchange in the field of sport on behalf of the European Commission.

[9] Stadspas (City Pass)

[10] *Lara-Bercial, Sergio & North, J. & Hämäläinen, Kirsi & Oltmanns, Klaus & Minkhorst, Jan & Petrovic, Ladislav*, (2017), "*The European Sport Coaching Framework"*

[11] *The National Anti Doping Agency of Germany (NADA Germany)*, (2022), "*Together Against Doping"*

9. Proposes that an additional section be introduced to the EU Sport Forum's website[12] with the purpose of:

    a. collecting relevant materials on coaching,

    b. facilitating transparent and accessible knowledge exchange between European grassroots sport organisations;

10. Instructs the EACEA to create a specific branch of the Erasmus+ sports programme to:

    a. minimise bureaucratic barriers and make the application process easier,

    b. include training camps for participants to secure their multidimensional development;

11. Invites Member States to consider organising activities in cooperation with their respective national sports federations that are similar to the the European Non-Governmental Sports Organisation (ENGSO)'s[13] SPIRIT-initiative[14];

12. Encourages ENGSO to draft and host a training course for trainers in grassroots sports that would teach them how to recognise unhealthy behaviour among players and equip them to deal with such situations.

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[12] EU Sport Forum is an initiative led by the European Commission in the form of a yearly event that gathers stakeholders in the field of sport and gives them a platform for cooperation and dialogue.

[13] The European Non-Governmental Sports Organisation (ENGSO) acts as an umbrella organisation and brings together National Sport Confederations and National Olympic Committees from 33 European countries. Its main mission is to promote the interest of grassroots sport in Europe.

[14] Sport & Psycho-social Initiative for Inclusive Training (SPIRIT) is a project developed by the ENGSO, it was co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union. Its main aim is to develop a framework on and promote the concept of positively humane coaching, which they believe could decrease drop-out levels ¡n sport.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND MONETARY AFFAIRS (ECON)

Fiscal Cohesion: Following European Central Bank's calls to reduce debt-funded policy measures to mitigate the pandemic-induced recession, how can Member States ensure future economic stability through the EU's Recovery and Resilience Fund?

Submitted by:

Leon Batel-Stojkovski (HR), Milica Bjelica (SI), Begüm Çelebi (TR), Dimitrios Georgopoulos (BE), Štěpán Hartman (CZ), Noel Hegertun (NO), Krzysztof Kalwas (PL), Natalia Kłosowska (PL), Sofija Kostić (RS), Timofei Makarenko (FI), Ayla Doga Soydemir (CY), Cameron Dunn Merelle (Chairperson, FI)

The European Youth Parliament,

aims for Member States to ensure a self-sufficient economic environment for Member States, which would mitigate the necessity of future debt-funded policies by making broad changes to current acting financial institutions in case of a sharp drop in the economic output of the EU. The goal is to create a sustainable framework in which the Resilience and Recovery Fund (RRF) is distributed in accordance to the EU's vision. Acknowledging the benefits of the RRF and its benefits in crisis management, we seek to reform its structure to increase transparency and the efficiency of the process both for now and as a potential mechanism for future crises,

- Alarmed by the potential misuse of RRF funds as a result of a lack of supervision by the European Commission and European Court of Auditors[1],

- Noting the past negative effects of debt-funded policies within the Eurozone, such as the Greek Debt Crisis of 2008,

- Emphasising the varied debt levels across Member States which are expected to grow as a result of the RRF,

- Aware of the lack of quality examples that could serve as guidelines provided by the EC for projects suggested by Member States and civil society,

- Noting with deep concern the corruption and greenwashing within RRPs in order to assure the distribution of funds[2],

- Concerned by the democratic backsliding present in the creation and assessment of the Recovery and Resilience Funds (RRFs),

- Conscious that due to the lack of a premeditated crisis plan some Member States were left unprepared for COVID-19 and thus are in need of more help than others,

- Alarmed by idled industries that pose as a limitation towards future economic stability as a result of COVID-19,

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[1] **The European Court of Auditors** works to guide and develop the ECs management of the EU budget and reports on EU finances.
[2] Euractiv (2021) "*MEPs Fear Greenwashing in EU Recovery Plan*"

- Concerned by the heightened possibility of moral hazard[3] as a byproduct of the RRFs, reversing the economic independency some Member states were close to achieving,

- Alarmed by the high inflation caused by COVID-19 and its negative effects on employment rates;

1. Calls upon the European Court of Auditors (ECA) to create a sub-organisation within itself to act as an independent body, which will:

   a. conduct quarterly audits on the expenditure of Member States' allocated funds,

   b. undertake the overview and acceptance procedure of RRPs and assure their fulfilment of their requirements,

   c. collaborate with investing companies to share project information with the aforementioned sub-organisation of the ECA;

2. Suggests Member States harmonise and collaborate with EU bodies throughout the distribution of the fund to:

   a. maintain the transparency of the 6-year process for both citizens and governments,

   b. redistribute 5% to 8% of the fund to the top five members with the highest ratio of contribution compared to their Gross Domestic Products (GDPs),

   c. use the same visions and requirements of the Next Generation EU,

   d. combat bias among Member States due to differences among payments given whether grants or loans;

3. Calls upon the European Network for Education and Training (EUNET) to:

   a. organise educational seminars for national representatives using best practices in the process,

   b. develop a common platform to promote sound investments and projects to increase transparency on the allocation of funds,

   c. organise media campaigns to raise awareness of the RRF by expanding and elaborating on the RRF scoreboard[4];

4. Encourages relevant Member State authorities with successful, approved, and finished projects to publicise and provide insights into their work process and generated solutions making it openly accessible to the public;

5. Recommends Member States hold non-binding citizens' deliberations on the RRPs proposed by their governments;

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[3] Moral Hazard refers to the phenomenon where an economic actor has the incentive to increase its exposure to risk because it does not bear the full costs of that risk.
[4] **The RRF scoreboard** is a unified table that provides insight into the progressive implementation of the RRF and national RRPs for each Member State

6. Calls upon the Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs (DG ECFIN) to:

    a. set a standard for Member States to have their own national crisis funds,

    b. enforce Member States to develop plans that appropriately resolve and mitigate the effects of future crisis,

    c. assure the existence of said plans a requirement for receiving an future RRF funds;

7. Suggests EU institutions to amend the Multiannual Financial Framework to shorten its period to three years in order to ensure the plan is able to reflect the current economic state;

8. Suggests the European Commission allocate additional funding and 20% minimum threshold for money allocated within the SURE program, for future RRPs to boost employment rates across Member States;

9. Suggests the European Commission RRF introduce fines on Member States who do not comply with RRPs based on the combined assessment of the countries`economic power and the magnitude of their transgressions;

10. Encourages the Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs (DG ECFIN) to assist Member States in the preparation and handling of future crises by establishing an expert group dedicated to crisis prediction and management;

11. Reaffirms the European Central Bank in their promotion of financial efficiency within the EU economy through their primary mandate of price stability.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT (REGI)

Bridge over Lonely Regions: What steps can the EU take to advance inter-regional connectivity in the context of transport, internet, infrastructure and culture, across the continent, and in particular isolated and insulated regions like the Visegrad?

Submitted by:

Alis Anghel (IT), Oana-Izabela Antonescu (RO), Boglárka Balázsi (HU), Josima Cuvelier (BE), Emma Gorey (IE), Mane Hachikian (AM), Konstantina Karagkitsi (GR), Margaux Porier (FR), Štefan Henri Števík (SK), Joel Topulli (AL), Vadzim Valasevich (BY), Šimon Prek (Chairperson, CZ)

The European Youth Parliament,

aims to ensure every European citizen has access to equal opportunities through promoting policy coordination in the matters of development between national and municipal governments, intertwining the regions politically, economically and culturally. It further aims to mitigate critical differences in the development of insulated regions that lead to general inequality in Europe and to ensure the growth of isolated regions through providing frameworks on sustainable development and investments into circular economies,

- Noting that inadequate general education has led to communication barriers that deconstruct the mechanisms used to achieve inter-regional connectivity[1],

- Aware of the general absence of shared knowledge regarding cooperation and collaboration between adjacent Member States,

- Conscious of the shortcomings of cooperative programmes and initiatives similar to the Berlin Process[2],

- Noting with concern that isolated European regions, especially islands, face water and energy scarcity due to their dependency on imports,

- Observing the lack of cross-border agreements between individual Member States in the matters of energy and transportation[3],

- Bearing in mind that less than 10% of all European rail passenger traffic is cross-border[4],

- Concerned that Euroscepticism highlights cultural and social disparities between individual regions,

- Deeply alarmed by the lack of investments into the culture sector by individual Member States[5] resulting in a shortage of cultural venues in rural areas,

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[1] UNICEF, *Insufficient investment in geographically remote schools*, February 26th 2015.
[2] The Berlin Process is a cooperation programme developed between EU and the states of the Western Balkans in order to revitalise future accession talks and improving regional cooperation in the Western Balkans.
[3] European Environmental Agency, Cross-border cooperation on renewable energy, 2022.
[4] European Commission, *Railway passenger transport statistics - quarterly and annual data*, 2021
[5] European Commission, *Science For Policy Briefs,* 2021

- Emphasising that cultural gaps causing contrasting political orientations between countries hinder effective inter-regional cooperation, such as in the case of the Visegrad Four (V4)[6] divide[7],

- Aware of the significant inequality regarding internet access between neighbouring regions within the EU[8],

- Recognising that the lack of internet literacy among EU citizens living in isolated areas hinders access to the Digital Single Market[9];

1. Calls upon Interreg[10] to create a common network of delivery operation systems for the sharing of information and the exchange of services with cross-border deliveries outside the Schengen Zone;

2. Urges the Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport, Culture (EAC) to further develop programmes directed at cultural exchange and education by:

    a. allocating bigger scholarships to Erasmus+ participants applying in countries neighbouring the participant's country of origin,

    b. increasing cooperation in support and development of programmes which allow inter-regional dialogue and strategy exchange through interest groups such as the European Council of Young Farmers[11];

3. Implores the EU-OCT partnership[12] to expand community-managed supplies in EU Overseas Territories and other isolated regions at risk of water supply shortages;

4. Encourages Member States to install **Project Ô**[13] technologies on remote islands, creating a circular water economy independent of unreliable water supplies and environmental damage to water systems;

5. Calls upon the Directorate-General for Energy (ENER) to elaborate upon TEN-E to form a comprehensive economic and infrastructural framework for cross-border renewable energy collaboration agreements, focusing on the energy distribution systems in rural and underdeveloped areas;

6. Instructs the Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (AGRI) to establish knowledge-sharing seminars in the areas of rural business, precision agriculture, and sustainable farming methods;

7. Asks Member States to diversify the placement of their respective cross-border transportation infrastructure utilising the policies such as Trans-European Transport Network[14];

8. Asks European institutions to publish thorough reports of their discussions with government officials in order to increase transparency in decision-making processes and governmental communication concerning inter-regional co-operation;

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[6] Visegrad Four, or the Visegrad Group, is the coalition between the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary and Poland fostering cooperation in fields of common interest.
[7] POLITICO, *The not-so-fantastic 4: Central Europe's divided Visegrad alliance*, January 7th 2022.
[8] Blank, Graham, Calvino. *Local Geographies of Digital Inequality*, 2013.
[9] European Council, *Digital Single Market for Europe*, September 21st 2020
[10] Interreg is the European Commission's foremost instrument for developing policy and foster development in cooperation with regional and municipal governments.
[11] The European Council of Young Farmers is a forum for dialogue between key decision-makers on regional, national, and international levels and young farmers and agricultural producers.
[12] An association between the European Union and the Overseas Countries and Territories Association established in order to develop strong, resilient and sustainable economies in European overseas territories.
[13] Project Ô is an EU backed initiative to create circular water economies around Europe.
[14] European Commission, *Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T)*, 2020

9. Requests the European Commission to implement frequent and random inspections of the utilisation of key European funding by the Members States, conducted by a new agency;

10. Asks the Directorate-General for Communication (COMM) to further cooperate with Member States in enhancing awareness about the role of the European Union among isolated regions' citizens through organising educational events and workshops;

11. Invites the **European Cultural Foundation**[15] and Member States to facilitate the development of cultural programmes such as museums, workshops and exchanges by:

    a. utilising digital tools such as virtual tours to increase access in isolated regions,

    b. creating a European Culture Pass programme, allowing young people to use a credit-based system allowing access to cultural offers across the continent;

12. Invites the European Commission to incentivise language learning initiatives through funding programs similar to the European Language Label[16];

13. Invites the V4 countries to increase political dialogue in order to identify common development goals and means to reach them in a cooperative manner;

14. Suggests regional governments with the support of Member States to initiate policies and programmes such as:

    a. providing internet access and telecommunication services for rural and underdeveloped regions,

    b. initiating more supportive digital trainings, such as the **Digital Education Action Plan[17]**,

    c. promoting incentives to develop native online platforms;

15. Encourages Member States to stimulate the expansion of broadband by lowering taxes for internet service providers that plan to establish high-speed broadband technology in isolated regions;

16. Implores Interreg to further their existing digital literacy education programmes in rural areas, especially in places and jobs threatened by the digital transformation.

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[15] European Cultural Foundation creates and supports cultural initiatives in all Member States of the EU.
[16] The European Language Label is an European Union award given to individuals and organisation who innovate in the field of language learning and teaching languages.
[17] Digital Education Action Plan is a European Commission policy aimed at adaptation of education and training systems for the digital age.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY II (ENVI II)

Food for Action: With rates of obesity, as well as insufficient levels of physical activity and healthy diets rising among children post-lockdown, what should the priorities for tackling child obesity in the next EU Action Plan on Childhood Obesity be?

Submitted by:

İbrahim Albayrak, (TR), Maria-Cristina Bărbulescu (RO), Angjele Çomani (FI), Hana Čanak (HR), Chrysopigi Fotiadou (GR), Sanja Amalie Hastrup (SE), Phara De Jaegere (BE), Višnja Kekić (RS), Vilja Krokann Teksum (NO), Yana Sargsyan (AM), Filip Konić (Chairperson, HR)

The European Youth Parliament,

aims to tackle the epidemic of child obesity through the new EU Action Plan on Childhood Obesity. It intends to reduce obesogenic environments[1] in schools by providing balanced and healthy meals. It also intends to combat stigma and mental consequences related to child obesity. Furthermore, it wants to reduce the impact of the advertising sector and food industry. Finally, it aims to improve the levels of physical activity among children,

- Considering one in three children are obese or overweight[2],

- Seeing as obesity is one of the leading causes of death and is among the most preventable ones,

- Given that obesity is linked to more than 60 chronic diseases such as cardiovascular, diabetes, musculoskeletal disorders, and cancer[3],

- Regretting that the children suffering from obesity are 63% more likely to be bullied and 55% more likely to develop mental conditions such as depression, anxiety , ADHD, and eating disorders[4],

- Observing that 36% of obese children come from low-income countries[5],

- Noting with concern that children from low-income families are 10% more likely to be obese than high income families[6],

- Further noting the stigma around obesity forms an obstacle in receiving fair and proper diagnosis and medical treatment, leading to 65% of obese people being misdiagnosed[7],

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[1] **Obesogenic environment is** an environment that promotes high energy intake and sedentary behaviour.
[2] WHO Regional Office for Europe: *WHO European Childhood Obesity Surveillance Initiative (COSI): report on the fourth round of data collection, 2015–2017*, (2021)
[3] *Prospective Studies Collaboration, Whitlock G, Lewington S, et al.*, The Lancet, (2009, 18 Mar), *"Body-mass index and cause-specific mortality in 900 000 adults: collaborative analyses of 57 prospective studies"*
[4] *Rankin, J et al.*, Adolescent health, medicine and therapeutics vol. 7 125-146, (14 Nov. 2016), *"Psychological consequences of childhood obesity: psychiatric comorbidity and prevention."*
[5] *Abarca-Gómez L., et al.*, The Lancet, (16 Dec 2017), *"Worldwide trends in body-mass index, underweight, overweight, and obesity from 1975 to 2016: a pooled analysis of 2416 population-based measurement studies in 128· 9 million children, adolescents, and adults."*
[6] *Kim, T. J., von dem Knesebeck, O.*, BMJ open vol. 8,1 e019862, (5 Jan. 2018,), *"Income and obesity: what is the direction of the relationship? A systematic review and meta-analysis."*
[7] *Phelan, S. M. et al.*, Obesity reviews: an official journal of the International Association for the Study of Obesity, (Apr 2015), *"Impact of weight bias and stigma on quality of care and outcomes for patients with obesity."*

- Seeing as the lack of education on obesity leads to children growing up in obesogenic environments,

- Alarmed there is an insufficient level of physical activity as 85% of young girls living in the EU countries do not participate in the standard daily exercise[8],

- Further considering that the COVID 19 pandemic has led to a greater lack of physical activity among children, making them more prone to obesity and other related health risks,

- Disappointed the food industry has little to no ethical and legal restriction, promoting unhealthy lifestyles for profit,

- Observing with alarm advertisements manipulating children and young people into unhealthy behaviour by advertisements,

- Anxious that schools do not offer sufficiently nutritious meals for children and instead rely on vending machines and fast food which contribute to 50% of calorie intake of processed food[9],

- Concerned that inaccurate labelling/description of ultra-processed foods makes them seem healthier;

1. Directs the European Commission to prioritise the following areas in the new EU Action Plan for Childhood Obesity:

    a. mental health,

    b. physical education,

    c. restriction of advertising and marketing to children,

    d. school meal programmes,

    e. research support,

    f. education on health lifestyles,

    g. work against stigmatisation,

    h. reducing sugar and salt intake;

2. Invites Member States in cooperation with NGOs, such as professional and youth associations, to organise seminars, workshops and expert talks for children, parents and teachers that aim to educate them on:

    a. causes and consequences of child obesity and prevention measures,

    b. how to accurately interpret messages from food advertisements,

    c. how to cautiously use social media in order to prevent low self esteem and body image problems;

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[8] *Guthold, Regina et al*. The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health, Volume 4, Issue 1,(Jan 2020), *"Global trends in insufficient physical activity among adolescents: a pooled analysis of 298 population-based surveys with 1.6 million participants."*
[9] *Marino, M. et al.*, Nutrients vol 13, (13 Aug. 2021), *"A Systematic Review of Worldwide Consumption of Ultra-Processed Foods: Findings and Criticisms."*

3. Authorises the European Social Fund (ESF) to financially support a free lunch programme in accordance with the agreements made at the UN "Food systems summit" in 2021, thus making a healthy and balanced diet, accounting for all preferences, more accessible to all socioeconomic groups of the EU;

4. Calls upon the European Commission to increase funding for the Common Agriculture Policy programme "EU school fruit, vegetables and milk scheme", in accordance with the World Health Organisation's (WHO) dietary recommendations[10], to ensure, to a total amount of EUR 350 million per school year: spending up to EUR 250 million for fruit and vegetables and up to EUR 100 million on milk in order to increase the accessibility to fruit, vegetables and milk;

5. Encourages Member States to provide schools with mental health professionals in order to support children who suffer from obesity and sensibilise other students on the topic, thus creating a safe, stigma-free environment;

6. Calls upon Member States to encourage and provide free and systematic yearly health check-ups to all students to keep track of their physical state;

7. Asks Horizon Europe to encourage and further fund scientific initiatives, such as WHO Europe's Childhood Obesity Surveillance Initiative, World Obesity Federation, or EAT Forum in order to collect a wide variety of data that can bring light to the factors that contribute to the development of child obesity, its consequences and ways to alleviate it;

8. Suggests Member States to provide further training to healthcare professionals that will adress the inappropriate communication and weight bias in order to prevent misdiagnosing obese patients;

9. Implores Member States to further invest into creating and maintaining sports infrastructures such as stadiums, courts and fields in order and well as sport events broadcasts on public televisions to encourage physical activity;

10. Resolves Member States' ministries of education to make physical activities in the school system more appealing by:

    a. modifying schools physical education curriculums so students are not evaluated,

    b. introducing a daily physical activity game which follows EU physical activity guidelines[11];

11. Encourages Member States to support local or EU-wide campaigns engaging youth in healthy activities such as sports or passive activities that will help to lower the risk of cardiovascular risk and danger of obesity in children and young adults from the age of 7-18, such as HealthyLivestyle4All[12];

12. Requests Member States implement a regulation on food products and beverages that contain free sugars by banning child-targeted marketing related to the packaging of a product, such as the use of animal characters and cartoons displayed on the package, as well as free collectible toys that come with the product;

13. Calls upon Member States to implement or increase taxation on food products and beverages that contain free sugars[13] in order to meet the goal of limiting children's daily sugar consumption to 10% of their total energy intake, in accordance with the recommendation provided by the WHO;

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[10] The World Health Organisation recommends that a **healthy diet** consist of fruit, vegetables, legumes, nuts and whole grains, with a minimum of 400 grams of fruit and vegetables.

[11] In accordance with the guidance documents of the World Health Organisation, the European Union and its Member States recommend a minimum of 60 minutes of daily moderate-intensity physical activity for children and young people.

[12] **HealthyLivestyle4All** is the European Commission's two-year campaign aiming to promote healthy lifestyles for all, across generations and social groups, by linking sport and active lifestyles with health, food and other policies.

[13] The World Health Organisation defines **free sugars** as all monosaccharides and disaccharides added to foods by the manufacturer, cook or consumer, as well as the sugars that are naturally found in honey, syrups and fruit juices. Monosaccharides have one sugar molecule and include glucose, galactose and fructose.

14. Calls upon Member States to mandate that the front-of-pack labelling[14] food products and beverages include information about the energy, fat, saturates, carbohydrates, sugars, protein, and salt contents in order to make the nutritional values more comprehensible.

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[14] **Front-of-pack labelling** is a method of labelling food products in accordance with the EU Regulation No.1169/2011 on the provision of food information to consumers (EU FIC), identifying energy value, fat, saturated fats, sugars, and salt and their reference intake shares in a portion on the front side of packaging.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY (ITRE)

When the Chips Go Down: In light of the pandemic-induced, global semiconductor shortage, how can European States drive forward innovation across supply chains to mitigate their dependency on import of technology?

Submitted by:

Agnesa Bytyçi (XK), Ömer Danacı (TR), Ruben Gevorgyan (AM), Maria Hanks (AT), Greis Hoxha (AL), Vito Ingrosso (IT), Milena Nikitović (RS), Elisavet Papaconstantinou (CY), Philomène Potin (FR), Kalina Stefanova (BG), Viktor Salenius (Chairperson, FI)

The European Youth Parliament,

aims to address the deepened semiconductor shortage in Europe by making the EU a significant player in global semiconductor[1] production. While it is not feasible to isolate the EU from global markets or directly out-compete large-scale production on other continents, it is crucial to increase the EU's position and ownership to support European industry and the increasing digital transition in the long term. It therefore asks that EU stakeholders increase subsidies and support for Europe-based semiconductor manufacturing, enable appropriate training and entrepreneurship, and focus industrial policy efforts on the most crucial processes in the semiconductor supply chain from the perspective of EU industry demand,

-   Noting that global semiconductor demand has been rising exponentially for the past decades due to digitalisation, while the available supply has not been rising at the same pace[2],

-   Recalling that the snowball effect of supply shortages in the semiconductor supply chain causes widespread delays in all industries that depend on semiconductor components,

-   Concerned that the deepening shortage in semiconductors, as further aggravated by the pandemic, is causing severe production bottlenecks and slowdowns in other sectors of Europe's economy such as the automobile industry,

-   Noting that semiconductor design and manufacturing processes are closely integrated with each other in the semiconductor supply chain,

-   Conscious that relatively expensive labour costs can make the EU unappealing to corporations and investors looking to establish semiconductor manufacturing in the EU,

-   Concerned that economic recession decreases the availability and support of public industry investment by the EU and its Member States,

-   Reminding that under EU competition law (Article 107 TFEU)[3] the EU and Member States may not currently offer private companies direct economic incentives or benefits to boost the EU semiconductor sector,

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[1] **Semiconductors**, or microchips are key components in digital technologies, and made out of a small silicon 'chip' that is embedded in electrical circuits.
[2] Slijkerman, J.F. and Nijboer, F. ING, (8 Feb 2022). "*EU Chips Act to boost Europe's technological prowess and strengthen economy*".
[3] Article 107, Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Official Journal 115 (9 May 2008).

- Acknowledging previous unsuccessful attempts[4] of the EU to significantly strengthen semiconductor related industries, demonstrating the challenge of implementing long-term industrial policy in the EU at a large scale,

- Noting the proposal for a regulation on a European Chips Act[5] as published by the European Commission on 8 February 2022, with a combined budget allocation of €43 billion[6] in policy-driven funding and a majority share earmarked for supporting large-scale 'mega-fab' semiconductor production facilities,

- Concerned that the EU's dependency on East Asian semiconductor production and supply makes EU industry stakeholders vulnerable to changes in the economic development, geopolitics and trade policy of other continents,

- Taking into account that EU companies provide other continents with crucial machinery for the production of semiconductors,

- Further noting that the aim to increase the overall EU share of global semiconductor production to 20% by 2030 implies a need to quadruple existing EU production capacity in eight years[7],

- Taking into account the infrastructural and economic differences between Member States and their direct demand for semiconductors,

- Stressing that overambitious plans for building large-scale semiconductor manufacturing facilities may place an unsustainable burden on EU and regional industrial systems, thereby also decreasing the long-term efficiency and profitability of large-scale factories,

- Reminding that existing EU semiconductor production is focused more heavily on mature transistors used in the automotive sector, rather than on advanced transistors used in advanced ICT applications,

- Concerned about the challenge of EU Member States to implement and connect the results of scientific research into semiconductor production and the supply chain,

- Alarmed that EU industry stakeholders are not sufficiently focusing and maintaining cutting-edge research in all aspects of semiconductor production,

- Emphasising that an upscaling of EU semiconductor production implies a fast-growing demand for medium and high-skilled engineering workforce,

- Concerned about the impact that an introduction of mega-fab production facilities may have on fair working conditions in the EU semiconductor sector,

- Noting that the semiconductor industry causes a substantial environmental footprint because of: the construction of new facilities; manufacturing processes; waste products and leftover materials that are difficult to sustainably dispose of and expensive to recycle;

[4] European Commission (23 May 2013) "*Commission proposes New European Industrial Strategy for Electronics – better targeted support to mobilise €100 billion in new private investments*".
[5] European Commission (8 February 2022), "*Proposal for a Regulation establishing a framework of measures for strengthening Europe's semiconductor ecosystem (Chips Act)*"(COM(2022) 46).
[6] DG CNECT. Policy and Legislation. (8 February 2022) "*European Chips Act: Shaping Europe's Digital Future. Joint Undertaking and Recommendation*".
[7] Cerulus, L. and Posaner, J. Politico. (8 Feb 2022). "*Europe has a chips plan — here are 6 things that could kill it*".

1. Asks the Council of the EU and the European Parliament to refocus the goal of the European Chips Act proposal from the general aim of reaching a 20% share of global semiconductor production capacity, and instead to prioritise more targeted aims of building up and safeguarding supply chains that can meet the core demand of EU industry both in terms of type and volume of semiconductors;

2. Further asks the Council of the EU and the European Parliament to amend the European Chips Act proposal by extending its pillar of short-term coordination between Member States to also include long-term collaboration and inter-regional supply chain harmonisation through the Industrial Alliance for Processors and Semiconductor Technologies[8];

3. Further asks the Council of the EU and the European Parliament to amend the European Chips Act proposal by including extensive crisis management plans for last-resort coordination in case of urgent semiconductor shortage in the future;

4. Recommends the Council of the EU and the European Parliament to amend the European Chips Act proposal to stipulate that its budget allocation should:

    a. prioritise support for microchip design and upstream suppliers while more extensive production capacity is gradually being built out,

    b. prioritise SMEs and start-ups, including new factory initiatives, ahead of directly supporting market leaders,

    c. include specific funding for investments and research that promote environmentally sustainable semiconductor production,

    d. not earmark direct funding under the Chips Act for establishment of large-scale 'mega-fab' semiconductor manufacturing facilities, except in the case of the first such factory initiative in the EU, or in the case of early-stage growth investment for start-up based initiatives;

5. Encourages the European Commission to strengthen its industrial relations in semiconductors with advanced free-market economies, such as Japan, and the United States (US) through the EU-US Transatlantic Technology & Trade Council (TTC)[9], in order to promote the values and economic model of European industry through sharing expertise and planning joint investments;

6. Encourages the Member States to gradually lower corporate income tax for companies that are part of majority Europe-based semiconductor supply chains;

7. Designates the European Commission to gradually introduce new tariffs for imports of semiconductor parts from third countries;

8. Strongly encourages EU semiconductor companies to build end-stage semiconductor manufacturing factories in less developed European regions in order to promote industrial development across the continent;

9. Instructs the European Innovation Council (EIC)[10] to particularly strengthen EU capacity and networks for semiconductor design and upstream suppliers in order to more rapidly strengthen the EU's position in global semiconductor markets;

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[8] The **Industrial Alliance for Processors and Semiconductor Technologies** is a collaborative network of semiconductor stakeholders launched by the European Commission in 2021 to identify gaps in the current potential for increased European semiconductor production.
[9] The **TTC** was established in 2021 to increase transatlantic trade and investment in products and services of emerging technology while promoting shared economic and political values.
[10] The **EIC** makes investments to support innovative companies in the EU.

10. Requests that the EIC promote communication and competence networks between European academic institutions and industry by establishing new partnerships with companies to:

   a. finance and maintain both exploratory and continuous research related to semiconductor production,

   b. make academic research more accessible to industry stakeholders in the semiconductor supply chain;

11. Instructs the EIC to invest more heavily in research on technological alternatives to semiconductors to reduce long-term dependence on established global supply chains;

12. Encourages EU semiconductor companies to strengthen medium and high skilled labour supply in the sector by offering hardware engineering students *quid pro quo* scholarships and financial aid connected to entry-level temporary graduate employment contracts;

13. Suggests that the EIC coordinate an increase in specialised retraining schemes for industrial workers to address the growing demand of skilled workers as the European Chips Act proposal is implemented;

14. Requests the Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CNECT) to establish a task force responsible for regular inspections of semiconductor companies and for action plans to safeguard working conditions, fair wages, and reliable infrastructure;

15. Directs the EIC to direct increased support for EU research initiatives aiming to make the semiconductor supply chain more resource-efficient and environmentally sustainable;

16. Asks the Industrial Alliance for Processors and Semiconductor Technologies to layout a framework for recycling and reducing the environmental footprint of semiconductors by building on the frameworks for sustainable resource management in semiconductor supply chains as adopted by companies such as ASML[11] and TMSC[12];

17. Calls upon the European Environment Agency (EEA)[13] to monitor that the development of new semiconductor manufacturing facilities adheres to the targets of the European Green Deal[14].

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[11] McAleese, J. Azo Materials (23 Sep 2021), "*Tackling the Chip Shortage with the Semiconductor Circular Economy*".

[12] https://esg.tsmc.com/download/file/2020-csr-report/english/pdf/e-r3-aPractitionerOfGreenPower.pdf

[13] The **EEA** coordinates the European environment information and observation network.

[14] The **European Green Deal** was adopted in 2020 as the framework vision for sustainable development in the EU.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS II (AFET II)

Democracy in Retreat: With democratic backsliding evidenced within the Union, in its near neighbourhood and across the world, what can the EU do to improve its active role as the beacon of democracy and keeper of rule of law?

Submitted by:

Paula Alvarez Cornelles (ES), Gayane Amirjanyan(AM), Katarina Balazs (AT), Alexandru Dincă-Oprea (RO), Majken Engström (SE), Teodora Kozić (RS), Ella McMullin (IE), Tereza Müllerová (CZ), Eleni Smith (CY), Dimitrios Trikaliotis (GR), Marthe Vankeirsbilck (BE), Mariam Imerlishvili (Chairperson, GE)

The European Youth Parliament,

aims to ensure the EU upholds its democratic values both within and beyond its borders since its Member States have also shown non-compliance with the principles of democracy and the respect for human rights. Furthermore, it strives to preserve political stability through the protection of human rights and the freedom of the citizens on regional and international levels. In addition, it intends to empower vulnerable communities through judicial independence, transparent and accountable governance, civil liberties, free and fair elections, as well as media integrity,

- Aware that the actions taken to relieve democratic backsliding[1] were proven insufficient due to the lack of countries' real policy commitments, being prevalent in the cases of "the Summit for Democracy 2021"[2] and "the EU Global Human Rights Sanction Regime"[3],

- Profoundly concerned by the unconstitutional changes of government and military-aided transitions as witnessed in Algeria, Egypt, and Sudan[4],

- Seriously concerned that the COVID-19 pandemic has provided an opportunity for authoritarian states, such as India and Iran, to use pandemic restrictions to erode citizen representation and postpone elections[5],

- Acknowledging with regret that in Member States, such as Hungary and Poland, the legislative and judicial institutions are skewed in favour of the ruling political party,

- Fully aware of the decrease in the quality of representation of citizens due to the erosion of presidential term limits as seen in 13 African countries[6],

- Noting with deep regret the significant increase in state interments and police brutality by governments such as those in Belarus[7],

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[1] **Democracy backsliding** entails the weakening of democratic principles, including but not limited to judicial independence, transparent and accountable governance, civil liberties, free and fair elections, as well as media integrity.

[2] **Summit for Democracy 2021**, initiated by the President of the United States (US), aimed at addressing the decline in democracy around the world and gathered around 275 representatives from various actors, including the EU, in December 2021.

[3] **The EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime**, established on 7 December 2020, enables the EU to target individuals, entities, and bodies – including state and non-state actors – responsible for, involved in or associated with serious human rights violations and abuses worldwide.

[4] International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, (2021) "*The Global State of Democracy 2021: Building Resilience in a Pandemic Era*".

[5] Ibid.

[6] Ibid.

[7] BBC, (2020, 14th of August) "Belarus election: '*Widespread torture' inflicted on jailed protesters*".

- Commending the contribution of the Strategic Communication Division and Task Forces (STRAT.2) of the European External Action Service (EEAS) to tackling misinformation,

- Gravely concerned by the actions of exterior dictatorships such as China and Russia distributing propaganda in Eastern Member States like Hungary[8],

- Deeply concerned by the fact that Member States are undermining critical media platforms resulting in media censorship, evidenced in such states as Slovenia, Russia, and Hungary,

- Fully alarmed that journalists covering situations critically are being called "opposition journalists", resulting in arrests,

- Disturbed by the absence of legal frameworks that prevent acts of gender-based discrimination and violence, including sexual violence, in various states such as Turkey, India, and Lebanon[9],

- Condemning the laws which infringe on the human rights of the LGBTQIA+ community, such as the "Gay Propaganda Law" in Russia[10] and "LGBT+ free-zones" in Poland[11],

- Emphasising that authoritarian states have proven to be prone to conflict;

1. Encourages Member States and partner countries to further commit to tangible measures to be agreed upon in the framework of Copenhagen Democracy Summit 2022[12];

2. Encourages the European Commission to award an annual prize to non-Member States with the highest level of improvement in the yearly International Democracy Index, naming them the "Beacon of Democracy" and promoting their country to increase tourism there;

3. Urging the Foreign Affairs Council configuration (FAC) of the Council of the EU to amend the Common Military List of the EU,[13] limiting the export of weapons to countries, without exception where unconstitutional changes of government are taking place;

4. Implores the European Commission to impose economic sanctions on any Member State or partner country whose leader unconstitutionally prolongs their political term of rule;

5. Encourages the Council of the EU to amend the EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy 2020-2024[14] in order to include the training of police forces in the dedicated International Humanitarian Law modules as a part of the EU military training missions;

6. Encourages the STRAT.2 to cooperate with relevant stakeholders in Member States and partner countries to further integrate competence of critical thinking and the recognition of propaganda into the education curriculum;

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[8] _Lóránt Győri and Péter Krekó, Warsaw Institute, (2017, 16th of October) "Russian disinformation and extremism in Hungary"_.

[9] Human Rights Watch, (2015, 19th of January) "_Unequal and Unprotected: Women's Rights under Lebanese Personal Status Laws_".

[10] Human Rights Watch, (2018, 11th of December) "_No Support: Russia's "Gay Propaganda" Law Imperils LGBT Youth_".

[11] PBS NewsHour, (2021, 29th of August) _"Anti-LGBT ideology zones' are being enacted in Polish towns"._

[12] **The Copenhagen Democracy Summit** is an international conference taking place every summer in Copenhagen, Denmark, organised by the Alliance of Democracies.

[13] **The Common Military List of the EU** sets out a list of military items subject to export controls, adopted annually by the Council of the European Union.

[14] **The EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy 2020-2024** represents a main document which reflects the EU's vision towards channelling the protection of human rights and democracy through its external relations.

7. Encourages the European Commission's Directorate-General for Education and Culture (DG EAC) to create:

    a. a virtual platform for Democratic Bingo in order to educate the general public on the existing disparities in democracies as well as how to become active citizens and uphold democratic values in their own communities,

    b. a global platform for fact-checked, verified critical media which cannot be censored or overruled by national governments, allowing information and opinion exchanges while ensuring the privacy and safety of journalists and citizens;

8. Urges the European Commission to further assist non-Member States to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)[15];

9. Calls upon the European Commission's Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (DG EMPL) to increase the funding of local civil society organisations in Member States and partner countries in order to solicit legal frameworks that prevent acts of gender-based discrimination and violence;

10. Calls upon the European Commission to use infringement proceedings against Member States and partner countries that violate LGBTQIA+ rights protected by Article 21 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and Article 19 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union;

11. Asks the DG EMPL to provide civil society organisations with additional funds to further strengthen their programmes that aid LGBTQIA+ people, as well as initiatives that have the goal of informing the population about their realities;

12. Reminds citizens of Member States and partner countries of the significant impact of their actions on the decision-making processes that foster democracy.

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[15] **The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)**, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1979, is an international legal instrument that requires countries to eliminate discrimination against women and girls in all areas and promotes women's and girls' equal rights.

NOVI SAD 2022
95th INTERNATIONAL SESSION
EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
(EMPL)

Away From Office: With more and more people switching to work from home as well as taking up employment through digital labour platforms, how can the EU ensure the fundamental rights and freedoms of workers are cohesively protected during digital work?

Submitted by:

Petar Đapić (RS), Nore Deconinck (BE), Eren Filiz (TR), Maja Ljungqvist (SE), Aleksander Nawracała (NO), Rezija Micure-Skaista (IE), Aina Puig (ES), Stella Rembratt (SE), Liliana Smaza (PL), Saya Talgat (AM), Anastasios Vasileiadis (GR), Simon Lenze (Chairperson, DE)

The European Youth Parliament,

aims to ensure the rights of digital workers are aligned with those of on-site workers, while also provide specialised rights and freedoms to digital workers, promote open dialogue between workers and employers, support the adaptation of harmonious policies for digital workers and algorithmic management[1], including legal protection and cyber security, economic support, adequate education and assistance for teleworkers' mental health needs, in order to create a productive workplace and work-life balance for all digital workers,

- Aware of the Proposal for a EU Directive (2021/0414)[2] to improve the working conditions in platform work which covers topics such as employment status, algorithmic management and the enforcement of transparency and traceability,

- Alarmed that the right to disconnect[3] is not recognised as a basic human right with no policies in place at the EU level to ensure Member States implement it,

- Concerned that digital work settings often violate the principles of decent work[4] such as just and favourable conditions, the right to form and join trade unions, and the right to reasonable limitation of working hours,

- Aware that the lack of workers' education on digital skills makes transitioning to digital work a challenge and widens the gap between workers with differentiating digital skills, knowledge and resources,

- Concerned by the lack of both workers' and young people's education on fundamental workers' rights and freedoms, especially in the digital working sector, leading to easier exploitation of workers, affecting their career and health integrity,

- Alarmed by corporations working against the forming of digital labour unions, resulting in workers' voices not being heard, and silencing of employees who try to speak up about discriminatory behaviour,

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[1] **Algorithmic management:** Automated systems that support or replace managers in making decisions about workers such as allocating tasks or grading performance based on algorithms and machine learning.
[2] European Commission, *Press Release,* (9 December 2021) "Commission proposals to improve the working conditions of people working through digital labour platforms"
[3] **Right to disconnect:** The right to not face penalties for not using work equipment or engaging in work-related communications outside of regular working hours.
[4] **Decent work** refers to the rights stated in Article 23 and 24 of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights

- Saddened by trade unions lacking the skills and funding to adapt their activities to digital working environments, bringing about a gap between organising on-site and digital workers,

- Noting with concern that there is no specific framework at the EU level which requires employers to cover the additional costs of working from home and to provide employees with necessary equipment,

- Concerned that digital labour platform workers are often classified as self-employed which does not correspond to their actual working arrangements depriving them of the same rights and benefits as employees,

- Disturbed that nearly two thirds of people working from home report feelings of isolation[5],

- Affirming that the unethical use of employee surveillance with little to no transparency by employers is a violation of privacy and results in stress and performance pressure which can lead to unsafe working environments,

- Aware that employee surveillance technology might lower the risk of confidentiality breaches and serious errors in high risk jobs,

- Pointing out risks of interference from third parties are higher in digital work as employees working in home networks are more vulnerable to cyber attacks[6];

1. Supports the full adoption of the proposed EU Directive for improval of working conditions of people working through digital labour platforms (2021/0414) by the end of 2022 in order to ensure correct classification of working arrangements and transparency on algorithmic management;

2. Asks the European Commission and the Council of the EU to recognise the right to disconnect in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights;

3. Directs Member States to adapt national legislation based on the Working Time Directive (2003/88/EC)[7] to the digital work context, considering the right to disconnect, following the example of Member States such as France;

4. Requests the European Commission to adapt Directive 90/270[8] to digital working in order to account for the increase of workers using computers[9];

5. Recommends Ministries of Labour of Member States to coordinate conferences for employers in regards to the use and limitations of digital labour platforms in order to raise awareness on the issue of false self-employment;

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[5] *American Psychiatrist Association* (2021/05/22)
[6] *Luke Irwin, IT Governance, (2021/08/19) "The cyber security risks of working from home"*
[7] The Directive 2003/88/EC regulates working hours to protect workers' health and safety.
[8] The Directive 90/270/EEC of 29 May 1990 sets guidelines on the minimum safety and health requirements for work with display screen equipment.
[9] The proportion of workers using computers has increased from 40% in 1995 to more than 60% in 2015. *Seetha Menon, Andrea Salvatori, & Wouter Zwysen, EUI Working Paper MWP, (2018/02) "The effect of computer use on job quality: evidence from Europe"*

6. Encourages the Directorate-General for Employment and Social Affairs (DG-EMPL) to allocate a fund that will help support forming digital worker unions as well as helping already existing unions adapt to the digital work environment in order to:

   a. initiate dialogue between employers and employee organisations on imposing training in digital skills when facilitating the shift between physical and digital work,

   b. host information sessions on basic workers' rights,

   c. facilitate workshops on well being and time management,

   d. organise voluntary "Keep In Touch" days at on-site workplaces for digital employees to maintain social contact;

7. Urges the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) to encourage their member organisations to create round-table discussion formats between employers and employees with a union representative present in order to define the necessary equipment for their jobs;

8. Recommends DG-EMPL to create an EU-wide framework requiring employers to provide employees with:

   a. the necessary equipment for digital work equal to the equipment on site,

   b. cybersecurity protection from possible attacks on Intellectual Property,

   c. reimbursement for additional costs used for teleworking;

9. Recommends the European Commission to use the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+)[10] to assist small and medium sized companies with the transition to digital work and the associated expenses;

10. Asks the European Commission to enforce legislation in Member States that aims at legal protection of employees that choose to speak up against violation of their basic rights on digital platforms, such as the right to unionise according to Article 28 in EU Charter of Fundamental Rights;

11. Recommends social innovators to develop supplementary software for digital labour platforms that enable confidential voluntary mental health checks in order to gather information on the mental well-being of employees and derive appropriate measures;

12. Invites Member States' local education authorities to create and implement comprehensive workers' rights and GDPR[11] modules into the respective secondary education curriculum;

13. Asks Member States to draft legislation to make it mandatory for employers to provide information and support for employees seeking mental health assistance;

14. Recommends Member States to update their legislation to include a mandatory clause in employment contracts that states if/ when, how, and why the worker will be surveilled digitally;

15. Directs the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) to draft guidelines regarding all employee surveillance technologies to ensure they are ethical, appropriate and conform to the GDPR;

16. Asks Ministries of Labour of Member States to examine any breaches of EU-OSHA guidelines and further penalise companies guilty of misconduct.

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[10] The ESF+ is the EU's financial instrument to invest in development in the areas of employment, social issues and education with a budget of €99.3 billion.
[11] The General Data Protection Regulation is an EU law regulating the privacy and protection of data and personal information of individuals in the European Economic Area.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS I (AFET I)

In this Together: With its increasing support towards the Open Balkan Initiative, how can the EU enhance the Berlin Process and establish a common route for EU integration for all Western Balkan countries, while considering each country's individual progress?

Submitted by:

Tigran Atoyan (AM), Anna Barath Pingani (SE), Aurora Bytyçi (XK), Alisia Çeribashi (AL), Ștefan Drăgan (RO), Nikolai Grigkar (AT), Georgia Liakaki (GR), Arturo Luciani (IT), Teresa Nealon (IE), Alona Pavlenko (UA), Milena Tries (GE), Dunja Trifunović (RS), Nina Batinić (Chairperson, HR)

The European Youth Parliament,

aims to support a sustainable and democratic process of integration of the Western Balkan Six (WB6) countries in the EU. It encourages all European and international actors to undertake the promises made in the past and finally bring stability, cooperation and higher quality of living in an historically unstable and neglected region,

- Concerned that the WB6 countries are facing democratic backsliding,

- Noting that different levels of economic, social, and political development in the WB6 countries allow for further disparities in their individual EU accession processes,

- Pointing out the prolonged EU neglect of such a geostrategically important region makes it vulnerable to malignant political, economic and mediatic eastern interference, dominantly by China [1] and Russia[2],

- Emphasising that inefficient educational systems force young individuals to leave the WB6 in hopes of better opportunities,

- Alarmed by the rise of radical nationalist ideologies amongst the populations of the WB6 countries presenting an obstacle to internal efforts for European integration,

- Bearing in mind that the WB6 will have an impact on both the EU and the countries themselves as it will improve interrelations between the WB6 countries,

- Acknowledging with deep concern that discrimination based on ethnicity and religion remains an obstacle in resolving conflicts among the WB6,

- Recognising that constant failure of meeting the Copenhagen criteria[3] causes major obstacles for EU accession[4],

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[1] *Plamen Tonchev, European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS), (2017,February) "China's Road: into the Western Balkans"*
[2] *Christoph Zöpel, Fondation for European Progressive Studies, (2018,March), "THE FUTURE OF 20 MILLION PEOPLE IN THE SIX WESTERN BALKAN STATES. A KEY QUESTION FOR EUROPE'S GEOPOLITICAL FUTURE"*
[3] Copenhagen criteria (after the European Council in Copenhagen in 1993 which defined them), are the essential conditions all candidate countries must satisfy to become a Member state. These are: political, economic, and administrative capacity to implement current EU law in their country.
[4] European Commission, (2019, July) *Western Balkans Summit Poznań. Chair's conclusions*

- Affirming that the accession to the EU presents a high possibility of ensuring an increase in countries' GDP and employment rates through exchange of goods, labour, and services,

- Noting with regret that through their veto power, certain Member States are prolonging the accession process of WB6,

- Fully believing that financial support provided by the EU Member States continuously improves the infrastructure in WB6 countries, as well as the transition to a carbon-neutral society;

1. Expresses its support for the current international and bilateral dialogues between WB6 countries in resolving territorial disputes, as well as internal religious and ethnic discrimination;

2. Encourages the European Commission to follow through with the Pre-Accession Assistance III Instrument[5] while closely monitoring the use of funds for helping political, institutional, educational, legal, administrative, social, and economic reforms being implemented in the WB6;

3. Urges the European Commission to include every WB6 country into the reform making plans by GRECKO[6];

4. Calls upon the European Commission and European External Action Service (EEAS) to further include the rest of the Member States in order to address all political and economic issues within the region;

5. Urges to provide more transparency of funds allocation of the European Regional Development Fund[7] in order to ensure the visibility of the progress of the WB6 towards the connectivity and cooperation in the region;

6. Calls upon the Regional Cooperation Council[8] to encourage regional cooperation and support between the WB6 actors towards further social development;

7. Emphasising the importance of the goals outlined in the Sofia Declaration on the Green Agenda[9] for the Western Balkans that promote sustainable economic development in WB6 countries;

8. Emphasises the need for the European Commission to urge all of the WB6 countries to sign the Joint Plan on counter-terrorism for the Western Balkans[10] facing ethnic and religious discrimination that culminates in terrorism;

9. Urges the European Digital Media Observatory to collaborate with local bodies to create fact-checking platforms that are able to identify misinformation and propaganda created and spread by Russia and China;

10. Enable the WB6 to continue to openly practice free trade through Central European Free Trade Agreement 2006[11], which established free trade between the WB6;

11. Invites the Central European Initiative[12] and European Parliament to establish cooperation through joint projects in order to secure economic, judicial, and political stability in the WB6 countries;

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[5] European Commission, *Overview - Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance*
[6] Council of Europe, *About GRECO*
[7] European Commission, *European Regional Development Fund*
[8] Regional Cooperation Council
[9] Regional Cooperation Council, (2020, November, 10th) *Sofia Declaration on the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans*
[10] Cornelia Riehle LL.M., Eucrim, (2020, November, 29th) *JHA Cooperation with Western Balkans*
[11] *Central European Free Trade Agreement*
[12] The Central European Initiative (CEI) is a regional intergovernmental forum established in 1989, following the fall of the Berlin wall. It gathers 17 Member States in Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe.

12. Urges the European Commission to include every WB6 country in the Discover EU[13] to further promote cultural exchanges;

13. Encourages student associations of high school and university levels and NGOs to increase and incorporate youth talks and cultural exchanges with and within the WB6 educational environment in order to facilitate social reconciliation and cross-cultural conversation;

14. Recommends the European Training Foundation[14] to further support educational reforms in WB6 countries through joint exchange of knowledge on educational matters;

15. Encourages the WB6 Chamber Investment Forum[15] to facilitate inter-regional networking in the business community through additional forums and conferences on regular bases;

16. Invites the Central European Initiative to call upon leaders and the Ministers for Trade and Industry of all WB6 countries to hold mediative talks to expand the Open Balkan Initiative to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, and Montenegro.

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[13] European Union, *Discover EU*
[14] European Union, *European Training Foundation*
[15] *Chamber Investment Forum Western Balkans 6*

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT AND TOURISM (TRAN)

Railways for Future: Recognising the potential of railways as a sustainable alternative for cross-border travel, what further steps can the EU take to promote carbon-neutral transport options, and improve the high-speed trains network across the continent?

Submitted by:

Pauline De Brabandere (BE), Fiona Brosnan (IE), Aiantas Christofidis (CY), Dunja Cvejanov (SR), Rareş-Ştefan Delamarian (RO), Hasan Özalp (TR), Filip Popovski (SE), Eleni Protopapa (CY), Alan Wawrzyńczok (PL), Jakub Hejdukiewicz (Chairperson, PL)

The European Youth Parliament,

aims to create an inclusive pan-European railway network by introducing cohesive technical railway standards for all Member States. We intend to make cross-border travel more accessible, affordable and efficient as well as prioritising sustainability through upgrading electric rail transportation,

- Noting with regret the fact that Member States use different signalling systems, rail gauges[1], and types of electricity, making it hard to create efficient cross-border rail connections,

- Regretting the fact that that all national railways carriers sell their tickets independently, making it difficult for passengers to easily buy cross-border tickets,

- Gravely concerned by the fact that funding for rail development is distributed unequally in favour of wealthier regions[2],

- Concerned that many train stations in the EU are not accessible to individuals with disabilities and foreign travellers unfamiliar with the local language[3],

- Regretting the fact that many train stations in the EU are understaffed and the staff is not adequately trained and equipped to assist foreign travellers and individuals with disabilities,

- Private rail operators have been shown to reduce prices when entering new markets previously operated by national railway operators[4],

- Alarmed by the fact that many national carriers are favoured over private rail operators by the regulating authorities controlling the tracks which makes it difficult for them to enter the transportation markets,

- Noting the potentially beneficial European Rail Traffic Management System (ERTMS)[5] system is only implemented only on a few of the EU railway lines,

- Regretting the fact that in the past European Commission faced difficulties enforcing the execution by the Member States of its directives aimed at improving rail infrastructure,

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[1] **Rail gauge** is is the distance between between two rails in the tracks.
[2] European Parliament, 2019, "*Research for TRAN Committee – EU funding of transport projects*"
[3] European Court of Auditors, 2018, "*A European high-speed rail network*"
[4] *Prof. Andrea Giuricin*, 2018 "*Competition in the rail industry*"
[5] **ERTMS** is a communication system used in the EU to coordinate the movement of trains across rail networks.

- Alarmed by the fact that the EU funding dedicated to the rail development is not used efficiently[6];

1. Instructs Eurostat[7] to conduct a study on the needs and preferences of railway passengers for transport planners and network operators to ensure the optimal allocation of future train stations and optimal adjustment of routes and timetables tailoring them to the needs of the passenger;

2. Advises the European Investment Bank (EIB) to establish a dedicated fund for railway infrastructure development which will:

    a. financially support Member States in constructing high-speed and conventional rail infrastructure,

    b. finance new railway infrastructure on a need-based rather than an application-based capacity;

3. Calls upon the Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE) to create and implement a universal, EU-wide ticketing system which would allow passengers to:

    a. directly purchase their tickets for cross-border trips,

    b. get access realtime information and timetables;

4. Instructs the DG MOVE to introduce English as an official language of all railway communication across the EU, requiring all cross-border train conductors across Europe to hold a competent standard of English;

5. Calls upon the European Commission to establish EU-wide technical standards to facilitate the implementation of pan-European cross-border travel by eliminating the system differences by:

    a. promoting the use of proprietary signalling systems on new and renovated routes,

    b. implementing the standard gauge of 1435mm for all rail lines in Europe,

    c. supporting research on the most appropriate one electrification system for electric trains across Europe,

    d. speeding-up the process of electrification of railway networks across Europe;

6. Urges DG MOVE to set new standards and funding improved services at train stations including:

    a. adequate number and level of staffing at all stations,

    b. standardised staff training across Europe that will prepare them to assist all passengers to EU-wide information about routes, prices and ticket purchase,

    c. instructions, announcements and signs in English to make stations more inclusive for international passengers,

    d. assistive technology, such as ramps, handrails, and easily accessible ticket machines, to make train stations more accessible to those with disabilities;

7. Asks the Directorate-General Communication (DG COMM) to conduct public sensibilisation campaigns regarding sleeper trains as an alternative to long-haul travel through promotion via media such as but not limited to: the radio, television, newspapers, billboards and social media;

8. Calls upon the European Court of Auditors (ECA) to formally investigate the legal process behind the train operator companies the Member States choose to run on railway tracks, in order to streamline the requirements needed for new private operators to enter the market;

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[6] European Court of Auditors, 2018, "A European high-speed rail network"
[7] **Eurostat** is the directorate-general responsible for gathering statistical data to be used by the policy-makers.

9. Calls upon the Member States, in cooperation European Union Agency for Railways[8], to implement the ERTMS by obliging the utilisation of the system in future railways;

10. Calls upon the European Social Fund+[9] to subsidise discounts on railway tickets, by reimbursing the value of the discount, for:

    a. people under 18,

    b. university students,

    c. people over 65,

    d. people with physical impairments.

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[8] **European Union Agency for Railways** is an EU institution responsible for introducing regulations in the area of rail transportation.
[9] **European Social Fund+** is the EU's main instrument for investing in people with the aim of building a more social and inclusive Europe.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS (DROI)

Home for all: In the light of current migration crises at Europe's borders and with the growing risk of climate change-induced mass migration, how can the EU enhance the impact of international legal frameworks in protecting migrants' rights now and in the future?

Submitted by:

Isabel Baury (DE), Eduard Grigoryan (AM), Simon Medin Haugan (NO), Nora Lara Jacobson (SE), Miron Petruta-Adriana (RO), Katarzyna Olejarczyk (PL), Gergana Pregyovar (BG), Beatriz Riera Vallejan (ES), Antreas Xydas (CY), Luka Zukanović (RS), Özgün Arslantürk (TR), Eleni Chrysafi (GR, Chairperson)

The European Youth Parliament,

aims to prepare the EU for the upcoming migration crises caused by economic, social, political, environmental or security reasons. We aim to achieve functional integration of the migrants into the wider societal structures. Furthermore, we aim to protect migrants' rights by improving the already existing legal frameworks and adapting them to all types of migration, including the climate-induced one. Lastly, aims to achieve the equal distribution of refugees amongst Member States,

- Keeping in mind that in 2020 30.7 million people had to migrate due to natural disasters caused by climate change[1],

- Acknowledging that the European Union is insufficiently prepared for the upcoming migrant crisis caused by climate change,

- Stressing that Member States have passed legislation that often contradicts international frameworks such as the Geneva Convention[2] which EU law reaffirms,

- Seriously concerned that Member States are not held accountable for refusing to adhere to their obligations regarding migration management,

- Bearing in mind that there are overlapping competences in place regarding migration, causing confusion regarding the jurisdictions of each stakeholder on migration management,

- Realising that migrants are not aware of the legal protection they are entitled to and often lack access to it,

- Recognising the insufficient measures regarding refugees' integration in the areas of employment and education across the EU,

- Concerned that the dialogue between EU institutions and external parties and partners is often not conducted in a transparent way and thus prevents measures regarding migration from being taken,

- Aware of the fact that in 2016 there were at least 2.5 million migrants smuggled worldwide[3],

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[1] European Parliament, (2021), "*The concept of climate-refugee. Towards a possible definition*".
[2] **The Geneva Convention** is a series of international treaties concluded in Geneva between 1864 and 1949 for the purpose of ameliorating the effects of war on soldiers and civilians.
[3] United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, (2018, 13/06), "*At least 2.5 million migrants smuggled worldwide in 2016*".

- Emphasising that push-backs[4] of refugees at Member States' borders is a violation of the European Convention on Human Rights[5] and ineffective in terms of managing migration flows,

- Fully concerned that media often stigmatise vulnerable groups such as migrants;

1. Calls upon the European Commission to cooperate with the UNHCR with the aim of further defining the term "climate refugee";

2. Proposes the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA)[6] to amend the Common European Asylum System[7] by:

    a. shortening the asylum application process,

    b. monitoring the implementation of European migration laws in Member States,

    c. drafting reports based on each Member State's progress;

3. Invites the International Organisation on Migration (IOM)[8] to assist local governments and authorities in the legislative procedure with the aim of homogenising national laws regarding migration management;

4. Calls upon Frontex[9] to deliver additional training schemes to European border and coast guard officers regarding cross-border crime, such as the smuggling of migrants and the identification of criminal suspects;

5. Asks the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and their national representatives to assist Member States in developing free legal aid programs for asylum seekers;

6. Asks the European Commission to initiate an ordinary revision procedure regarding Article 7 of the Treaty of the European Union (TEU) with the aim of further defining and strengthening the appropriate financial sanctions in case of violation of the rule of law;

7. Urges the EUAA to conduct supervisory visits at Member States' Ministries of Migration in order to monitor the implementation of migration management laws;

8. Encourages Member States to develop integration programs for migrants following the example of the Norwegian Cultural Orientation Programme[10] regarding the resettlement of refugees in local communities;

9. Encourages Member States to cooperate with members of the Global Partnership for Education in order to inform migrants about their rights through:

    a. the organisation of educational schemes,

    b. the creation of information stations in refugee camps.

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[4] **Push-back** is the informal expulsion of refugees and migrants from a state's borders - immediately after they had crossed them - without the possibility to seek asylum.

[5] **The European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR)** is an international human rights treaty between the 47 states that are members of the Council of Europe (CoE).

[6] **The EUAA** is the agency responsible for helping Member States to enforce the EU's Asylum Policy. Its aim is to facilitate the unification of asylum practises in line with the EU's rules across Europe.

[7] **The Common European Asylum System** is the core part of a new pact on migration and asylum proposed by the European Commission which would establish governance at an EU level in terms of migration management.

[8] **The IOM** is an international body that contributes to the migration policy-making process through fostering international cooperation on managing migration issues and assisting in the research for practical solutions to the challenges posed by migration.

[9] **Frontex** is the agency responsible for Europe's border management. It cooperates with national authorities and provides them with effective border control expertise in order to regulate migration flows.

[10] **NORCO** is a programme that fosters the resettlement and integration of refugees in local communities.

10. Calls upon the European Commission to accelerate the implementation process of the Infringement Procedure[11] with the aim of holding Member States accountable for not adhering to their obligations regarding migration management;

11. Further calls upon the European Commission to initiate the discussion on the proposal of updating the common rules on criminal offences mentioned in the Treaty of the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) in order to include hate speech and hate crime;

12. Suggests that Eurostat cooperate with Frontex in the process of collecting data regarding push-back incidents on European borders;

13. Invites Member States to introduce ambassador programmes for refugees in order to positively impact public opinion regarding migration.

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[11] **The Infringement Procedure** is an EU judicial mechanism that allows the European Commission to react when a Member-State does not comply with EU law.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL LIBERTIES, JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS (LIBE)

You Shall Pass: With the continuing mutations of the COVID-19 virus and lengthened measures to isolate the spread of new variants, how should the EU respond to the increasing role of Vaccination Passes/Certificates across the Union?

Submitted by:

Leona Bucalija (HR), Laura Clerkin (IE), Lise Droogné (BE), Olivia-Elizabeta Golub (RO), Birsen Ibrahimova (BG), Melina Loizou (CY), Elena Manuritta (IT), Elen Mikaelyan (AM), Inga Vaage Haukaas (NO), Marina Yeghshatyan (AM), Ali-Maeve FitzGerald (Chairperson, IE)

The European Youth Parliament,

aims to regulate the implementation of Vaccination Passes across Member States, and assure the security of their adoption. Moreover, aims to increase cooperation between Member States in the recognition of vaccination status across, and outside of, the EU's borders. Furthermore, aims to promote the sharing of scientifically accurate information regarding the safety of COVID-19 vaccination to deter the spreading of misinformation. Finally, strives to achieve harmony between opposing social-groups in order to avoid further polarisation of pro- and anti-vaccination groups,

- Emphasising the huge disparity between the level of vaccine uptake across Member States, with 91.7%[1] of Portuguese citizens fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and only 54.9% of Croatians fully vaccinated,

- Observing the general populations' trust in the efficiency of COVID-19 vaccination decreasing due to the lesser protection they offer against new variants of the virus[2],

- Recognising that Member States' Vaccination Certificates are not always recognised as valid outside of the EU,

- Deeply alarmed by falsified Vaccination Certificates which have become rampant in anti-vaccination communities[3],

- Conscious that European citizens are losing faith in the actions of their governments due to mishandling of pandemic measures, which has caused challenges to their democracies,

- Alarmed that anti-vaccination and anti-Vaccination Certificate protests have been witnessed across all Member States, resulting in cases of violence and riots[4],

- Aware that opposing ideologies in relation to mandating COVID-19 vaccination generate factions, putting harmony within European society at risk,

- Concerned by celebrities, media sources, and other influential figures spreading false information, scientifically disproved facts, or inaccurate data relating to COVID-19 vaccinations on social and mass media platforms,

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[1] *Reuters*, (2022, March 8), "COVID-19 Vaccination Tracker"
[2] *Mayo Clinic*, (2022, 4 March), "Do COVID-19 vaccines protect against the variants?"
[3] *Forbes*, Cecilia Rodriquez, (2022, February 21), "Fake Covid Vaccine Passes: The Craze In Europe Thanks To Social Media"
[4] *Euronews*, Sandor Zsiros, (2022, February 8), "Antivax protests are on the rise in Europe, but can they last?"

- Observing the impacts of 'echo chambers'[5] in polarising the opinions of people by limiting the exposure to diverse perspectives about the Vaccination Certificates, COVID-19 vaccines, and the pandemic,

- Gravely concerned that influential religious figureheads are using the teachings of religious texts to spread anti-vaccine disinformation and discourage uptake of the COVID-19 vaccine amongst religious communities,

- Disapproving that immunocompromised citizens, such as those with allergies to the ingredients used in the manufacturing of the vaccine, are refused the opportunity to acquire a Vaccination Certificate due to their medical inability to receive a vaccine;

1. Directs the European Commission to increase the number of equivalence agreements between non-Member States to expand membership of the EU Digital COVID-19 Certificate System globally;

2. Calls upon Member States to follow the example of Austria in ensuring the proper usage and checking of Vaccination Certificates for hospitality and other public venues by imposing financial sanctions for establishments that are found in breach of these measures;

3. Requests the Council of the EU EPSCO to encourage relevant ministers of health to promote the sharing of best practices in regards to the implementation of Vaccination Certificates for domestic usage;

4. Recommends Member States counteract the misuse of Vaccination Certificates by requiring proof of identification alongside Vaccination Certificates for all domestic uses;

5. Advises Member States' regional governments to host Citizen's Assemblies for both pro-vaccination and anti-Vaccination Certificate groups as a platform to discuss their opinions with qualified health experts;

6. Instructs the European Digital Media Observatory[6] (EDMO) to coordinate official national public health bodies' available resources to tackle the spreading of misinformation in Member States;

7. Directs the European Commission to allocate funding through the EDMO to independent fact-checking organisations aiming to highlight the spreading of COVID-19 vaccine misinformation on social media sites in all official EU languages;

8. Advises the European Education Area[7] to promote scientifically accurate information sharing in regards to the efficiency and development of vaccinations by creating tailored educational support platforms for primary and secondary educational institutions;

9. Calls upon Member States' governments to promote the uptake of the COVID-19 vaccine amongst religious communities by:

    a. Beginning dialogue with heads of regional and national religious bodies to provide reliable information on COVID-19 vaccinations,

    b. Providing educational material tailored to disprove misconceptions held by religious groups in relation to the safety of COVID-19 vaccines;

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[5] **Echo chambers** occur on social media platforms in which algorithms amplify the opinions held by the account-holder in a closed system, isolated from opposing ideologies.
[6] **The European Digital Media Observatory** (EDMO) is a project funded by the European Commission to foster collaboration between recognised fact-checking organisations, and support public authorities in the creation of a public portal to combat the spreading of disinformation.
[7] **European Educational Area** is an initiative funded by the European Commission tasked with providing resilient and inclusion efforts educational training resources for Member States' national educational systems.

10. Urges the European Commission to allocate additional funding through the Horizon Europe Fund[8] to further research the development of COVID-19 vaccines to offer protection to future mutations of COVID-19 and protect those with allergies to ingredients used in currently European Medical Association (EMA) approved vaccines;

11. Encourages Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG-SANTE) to recognise valid medical exemptions in the EU Digital Covid Certificate for those unable to receive vaccination by providing this group with free and regular testing in all public health institutions.
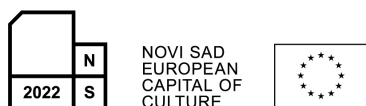
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[8] **The Horizon Europe Fund** is the EU's key funding programme for research and innovation, with a budget of €95.5 billion.

RESOLUTION BOOKLET
NOTES

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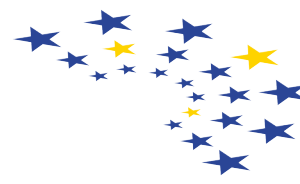
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